

EXAMINING GROUP 1761

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SCHAEFER ET AL. Examiner: A. CORBIN
Serial No.: 09/708,925 Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: NOVEMBER 8, 2000 Docket No.: 10871.3USC2
Notice of Allow. Date: OCTOBER 22, 2003 Confirmation No.: 2674
Title: LOW TEMPERATURE RENDERING PROCESS, AND MEAT PRODUCT

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 4, 2003.

By: Debra A Bailey
Name: Debra A Bailey

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.59(b) TO EXPUNGE INFORMATION
SUBMITTED UNDER M.P.E.P. § 724.05

ATTN: Examining Group 1761
Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.59(b) to expunge trade secret material from the above-identified patent application. Attached with this petition is a petition fee of \$130.00.

On August 11, 2003, a copy of a declaration signed by Daniel Schaefer, one of the named inventors, was mailed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified patent application under the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 724.02. The original declaration was filed in Parent Application Serial No. 08/506,612. It was requested that only the Examiner or other authorized patent office employees have access to the information in the declaration.

Applicants request that the declaration of Daniel Schaefer, which was mailed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 11, 2003, be expunged because it contains trade secret material, and the information provided in that the declaration has not been made public. It is clear from the Notice of Allowance mailed on October 22, 2003 that the declaration was considered and was not important to deciding patentability. It is pointed out that the declaration of Daniel Schaefer was submitted in an envelope marked "confidential."

As required by the provisions of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Applicants commit to retain the trade secret information for the period of any patent with regard to which the trade secret information is submitted. Furthermore, this petition to expunge is being submitted on behalf of the party in interest who originally submitted the information.

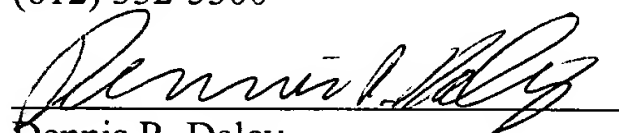
Granting of this petition to expunge the declaration of Daniel Schaefer is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
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(612) 332-5300

Date:

December 4, 2003



Dennis R. Daley

Reg. No. 34,994

DRD:PLSdb

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE